

Medicine Bow Landscape Vegetation Analysis (LaVA)

Meeting Minutes

Cooperating Agency

February 20, 2019; 1000 – 1500

Call-in Number: 1-888-844-9904; Passcode: 6838442

In Attendance:

Melissa Martin - USFS	Leanne Correll - SERCD	Travis Pardue - WSFD
Josh Peck - USFS	Melissa Mokry - WSFD	Justin Williams - WDA
Tim Douville - USFS	Brooke Owens - USFS	Mark Westfahl - USFS
Frank Romero - USFS	Steve Loose - USFS	Mark Conrad - WGFD
Russ Bacon - USFS	Katie Cheesbrough - WGFD	Jason Armbruster - USFS
Casey Cheesbrough - USFS	Martin Curry - LRCD	Casey Campbell - USFS

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Repackaging MPA –**
 - Clarify “Commercial Activity” in Glossary
 - Adjust colors on Wildlife map and add an asterisk to WSA in legend.
 - Replace “morality” with “mortality”.
 - Stacked AU maps – Explore ways to make less busy.
- **FEIS Chapter 3 –**
 - **Hydrology** – Bring forward explanation of acreage numbers from RTC to Chapter 3. Where did Table 18 come from?
 - **February 27** – Deadline to provide comments on Resources section, as well as Response to Comments, and Chapters 1 and 2.
- **Next Meeting –**
 - **No March Meeting** – March 20 Deadline for project ideas from internal and cooperators.
 - **April 17 Meeting** – Moving from planning to implementation

AGENDA:

1) Forest Supervisor Time

OVERVIEW

Appreciate the feedback from the cooperators. It has helped get us to where we are now, nearing the finish line. The shutdown allowed leadership to stop and look at the project, and the repackaging is the product of that. Timeline may be different, but the product will be better.

2) Repackaging of Modified Proposed Action

OVERVIEW

The original TOA categories from the DEIS (2) have been further expanded from 3 emphasis areas (discussed in previous cooperating agency meetings) to six emphasis areas. New maps have been

created and added to the Modified Proposed Action section, with improved narratives and tables, with the purpose of increasing understanding of the intent of the project. The new maps and narratives, as well as the updated accounting units sections were presented to meeting participants. Cooperating agencies were in agreement that the repackaging strengthens the project.

3) Substantive Changes to FEIS Chapter 3

OVERVIEW

Analysis assumptions have been updated to reflect the most recent fire and fuels specialist report. Several resource sections were bolstered, based on comments from the December 19th Cooperator's meeting. Chapter 3 now includes additional information from the specialists' reports, in response to cooperator concerns. Specifically, specialists were asked to review analyses of the No Action Alternative, cumulative effects, direct and indirect effects, site-specificity, and project benefits. Reports will be available on the project website for public review, as with the DEIS.

4) Response to Comments

OVERVIEW

The Response to Comments document is finished, with the exception of a final review. Specialists have been diligent in providing comprehensive responses, in anticipation of objections. Numerous comments provided by the RTC Small Group were incorporated into individual as well as group responses. Cooperating agencies have until Feb 27 to provide feedback on Response to Comments, as well as Chapters 1 and 2, and the resources section of Chapter 3.

5) Project Timeline

OVERVIEW

- The NOA Package was resubmitted to our Regional Office on February 4; we received approval to e-file when we are ready on February 22.
- We are shooting for a Camera Ready Document by March 15th.
- In which case, the Federal Register Notice and Objection Period would start on March 22 and the Objection period would end around April 22.

6) Wrap Up

OVERVIEW

With the FEIS nearly finished, the next meetings will be focused on implementation. March 20th meeting will be deferred in lieu of a deadline for project ideas via email. Our next face-to-face meeting will be on April 17 to begin identifying focus areas and potential projects.

Meeting Adjourned